Where Regions Shift

Trace how land, trade, and settlement shape a region.

7.C.8.1 "Define the concept of region and explain how regions change over time through physical and human processes, such as land use, urban growth, population, natural disasters, and trade."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline phrases that show what places in a region share, and circle the events or decisions that change a region over time.

The Changing Regions of Reedport

1 Imagine Reedport, a town beside a wide river. A region is an area grouped by a shared feature, such as land, work, or connections. Reedport sits in a floodplain region: the river has spread soil across low, flat ground during past floods. Farms on that soil also make Reedport part of an agricultural region. These two regions do not have identical edges. The floodplain includes low land beyond the farms, while the agricultural region includes farms on higher ground. A region's boundaries depend on the feature used to group places.

2 At first, most families near Reedport grew vegetables and sold them at a small river dock. Later, a larger dock and a road made it easier to ship food to distant cities. Warehouses opened along the road. Some fields became loading areas and homes for new workers. The area tied to Reedport by trade spread beyond the farms to towns that sent goods through its dock. Meanwhile, the farming region near town shrank as land use changed. Trade and population growth changed how people grouped the area.

3 Then a major flood damaged the dock and several riverside neighborhoods. Water did not make every nearby place part of the floodplain; only low areas that the river could flood fit that physical region. After the flood, Reedport rebuilt some homes on higher ground and moved the dock to a protected stretch of river. New roads linked the replacement dock to other towns. The river's flooding changed where people built, and their choices shifted the centers of trade and settlement. The physical floodplain remained, but human regions continued to change.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why can Reedport belong to both a floodplain region and an agricultural region, even though the regions have different edges?

2. How did the larger dock and road change the area tied to Reedport by trade?

3. How did the flood and people's choices together change where Reedport residents settled?

4. Why did the farming region near Reedport shrink while the floodplain region remained?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Invent a place and name one region within it. In four sentences, explain what first defines that region, then show how one physical event and one human decision change its boundary over time.

ANSWER KEY

Where Regions Shift

GRADE 7 · 7.C.8.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline phrases that show what places in a region share, and circle the events or decisions that change a region over time. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why can Reedport belong to both a floodplain region and an agricultural region, even though the regions have different edges?	**The floodplain groups low land the river could flood. The agricultural region groups farms, including some on higher ground, so the two regions have different boundaries.**
2	How did the larger dock and road change the area tied to Reedport by trade?	**The trade region spread beyond nearby farms to towns that sent goods through Reedport's dock.**
3	How did the flood and people's choices together change where Reedport residents settled?	**The flood damaged riverside neighborhoods, and people rebuilt some homes on higher ground.**
4	Why did the farming region near Reedport shrink while the floodplain region remained?	**Fields became loading areas and homes, reducing the land used for farming. The low land the river could flood still formed the floodplain.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In my imagined town of Sandhaven, the tourism region first included beachfront blocks where visitors stayed and shopped. A hurricane eroded the beach and damaged hotels, so fewer blocks near the water served visitors. The town built new hotels and shops farther inland. Over time, the tourism region shrank along the shore and expanded inland because of the storm and the new land use.

Accept different region names and boundaries when students identify a shared feature and explain how the physical event and human decision change the area included.